

Hiroshi OMURA et al.

a¹
a light-shielding housing that covers up at least a moving range of the printing head in a light-tight fashion is provided in the body.--

Amend claim 16 as follows:

a²
Sub B1
--16. (amended) An electronic still camera comprising an imaging device for obtaining image data by photographing a subject, a loading chamber for loading a plurality of instant films that include a processing fluid, a printing head for projecting printing light onto a photosensitive surface of the loaded instant film on the basis of image data, a scanning mechanism for moving the printing head along the photosensitive surface of the instant film, [and] a pair of spread rollers for spreading the processing fluid over the exposed instant film, and a camera body for containing the above elements, the electronic still camera being characterized [by comprising] in that:

a light-shielding housing that covers up at least a moving range of the printing head in a light-tight fashion is provided in the camera body.--

Amend claim 17 as follows:

--17. (amended) An electronic still camera comprising an imaging device for photographing a subject, an exposure device for exposing an instant film that includes a processing fluid on the basis of image data of the subject photographed through the imaging device, and a pair of spread rollers for ejecting the exposed instant film out of a camera

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body while spreading the processing fluid over the exposed instant film, the electronic still camera being characterized by comprising:

a²
a device for removably connecting an external memory to the instant printer, a device for compressing image data of a subject photographed through the imaging device and writing it on the connected external memory, and a device for expanding compressed image data that is read out from the external memory, wherein the exposure device may be driven based on the image data read out from the external memory.--

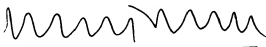
Amend claim 19 as follows:

a³
--19. (amended) An electronic still camera according to claim 18, wherein the [removably attachable] external memory previously stores decorative image data that [is to] may be synthesized with the subject image data.--

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By


Robert J. Patch
Attorney for Applicant
Customer No. 000466
Registration No. 17,355
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone: 703/521-2297

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